

CITY OF ILWACO

City Council

MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting – March 8, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cassinelli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited as there was no flag in the meeting room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council members Jensen, Chin, Marshall, Greene and Forner, and Mayor Cassinelli.

APPROVAL OF MODIFIED AGENDA

Councilor Greene made a motion to move discussion item # 5 on Animal Control to discussion item # 1 to accommodate Police Chief Flint Wright's schedule. Jensen seconded and it was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Greene made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the February 22, 2010 and claims and vouchers # 808640 – 808657 and # 29204 - 29205 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Marshall and the vote was unanimous.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Chief Flint Wright reported that as a result of the number of complaints, the police have increased enforcement of traffic laws in Ilwaco. Since the last Council meeting, 32 warnings (22 speed related), 14 speeding tickets, two suspended license tickets and one DUI have been issued. He also noted that nearly all the violations occurred on 1st Avenue North/Pacific Highway and that very little speeding has been detected on Spruce Street or the secondary streets. Gary Kobes stated that the relocation of underground utilities on the Beards Hollow Overlook project has been completed, some additional work may be needed on the North side of the driveway, the storm water system completed, landscaping 80% completed, and the paving remains to be done. Additionally, the Community Center and Fire Hall building retentions were released last week and he expects the subcontractors will be back in about 7-10 days to fix the warranty issues. Normandie Hand has been working on the Fishing Derby, and also met with the Department of Labor & Industries about workers compensation issues

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Chin met with Surf Pines residents regarding the crosswalk concerns they expressed at the last Council meeting. Her research indicates that a flag system has a more positive effect

on drivers' respect for crosswalk users/regulations than flashing lights, and offered copies of her research to those interested. Chin said that WSDOT will contact her regarding who can repaint the crosswalk markings. Councilor Greene attended a meeting at Ocean Beach Hospital and agreed to write a letter for the Mayor's signature indicating the City's support for the hospital's acquisition of a Digital Mammography Machine. Greene also attended a Port of Ilwaco meeting where the possibility of renting City property near the Waste Water Plant to store crab pots was raised. Greene also participated in a Water Plant operational audit and said the report will be forthcoming. Besides repairs to filters, other improvements are needed and some equipment is past its operational life. Greene suggested that the City begin data collection as the first phase of the study necessary to prepare for the eventual replacement of filter # 3. Marshall suggested that the City's responses to issues DOH raised several years ago in the Canvas report could prove helpful. Greene reported that the Black Lack Steering Committee will meet on March 12. Councilor Forner reported that the Lewis & Clark Fire District picked up the surplus turnouts donated to Ilwaco after the Fire House fire. He also attended the meeting with the City's new liability insurance carrier.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cassinelli reported that he, Forner and Chin met with the new insurance carrier and emphasized that the company is paid to carry liability on City buildings. The Mayor terminated the contract with City Attorney David Nelson and his firm and signed the contract with Richard Dykstra as authorized by the Council, to pursue the lawsuit against the former City Attorney's insurance company. Dykstra recommended attorney Richard Matson to carry on the lawsuit against AWC, the insurance carrier for the old Fire Hall—Matson was an insurance adjustor/salesman for 10 years prior to attending law school. The Mayor met representatives of the Department of Labor & Industries who walked through the Sewer Plant, Community Building and City Hall to do an assessment. The report indicates that both minor and major items need to be addressed. On Wednesday, a walkthrough of the Fire Hall and Water Plant is planned. The Mayor thanked Elizabeth Johnson, Dave Johnson and Don Berger for their help in planning the April 24 Black Lake Derby. To date, approximately \$875.00 has been donated and additional contributions are needed for this good cause. The Mayor reported that fishing trips have been donated by Coho Charters and Beacon Charters and that Englund Marine is planning to make a major donation to the Derby in the form of assistance paying for the event's T-shirts. He also welcomed offers from anyone interested in volunteering to work with the Derby Committee or on the day of the event.

COMMENTS OF CITIZEN AND GUESTS

Nellie Beasley stated her concern about parking on the roadway in front of the Hospital as she feels it is a hazard, and added that parking she understood that parking was to be allowed on one side of the roadway only. The Mayor said that there are plans to meet with the hospital and this issue can be added to that discussion.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1 1199A Authorization Approve/Sign the FEMA Grant for Fire Hoses—Forner clarified the issue by stating that it allows the City Treasurer to track and disperse the grant funds. Forner made a motion to approve, Greene seconded and the vote was unanimous.

#2 Approval of the City Contract Hiring Heather Reynolds as City Attorney—Heather Reynolds' qualifications as a City Attorney were outlined, and the Mayor, Jensen and Greene stated they

met with her. Greene noted that Reynolds is giving the City a discounted fee rate. Jensen noted the fact that she does not litigate. Greene moved to approve the hiring of Heather Reynolds as City Attorney, Jensen seconded and the motion passes unanimously.

3 Interlocal Agreement of Cities Insurance Association—The Mayor explained that since Ilwaco is in an insurance pool, this agreement is necessary as a follow up to actions taken by the Council in December. A motion was made by Greene to give the Mayor authorization to sign the Interlocal Agreement, Forner seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

#1 Animal Control—Cheri Diehl and Jane Holeman provided information on behalf of the South Pacific County Humane Society (SPCHS). Diehl stated that the SPCHS would like to become the shelter of record for Ilwaco (impound center) and also be responsible for issuing dog licenses for Ilwaco—SPCHS currently has such an agreement with Long Beach. SPCHS would retain the license fees and if, per Police Chief Wright, the police issue a citation, Ilwaco receives any associated citation fees. Wright also stated that the police have been operating as if Ilwaco had the same agreement as Long Beach for many years. Jensen suggested that the current ordinance may need to be updated to remove the “kill” option. The discussion that followed included the fact that the SPCHS bylaws state that only animals that are dangerous to humans may be euthanized. The Mayor suggested that the relationship between the City and SPCHS could be established via a letter of record. Greene volunteered to modify the fee structure in the Code if necessary. A letter will be readied for the next Council meeting.

#2 State Parks Boundary Adjustment—The adjustment affects the trail area that is on an easement from MSW. MSW and the State Department of Parks have agreed to an adjustment that will attach that section to Parks’ property. The adjustment will not change the city limits. At the end of this discussion per City Council rules, Greene made a motion to move the State Parks Boundary Adjustment from a discussion item to a business item. Forner seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Greene moved that the State Parks Boundary Adjustment be approved and Forner seconded. Jensen raised the question as to whether a fee had been paid for the boundary change request and it was reported that State Parks had paid the \$250.00 fee. Jensen also expressed his concern that related City expenses are paid by the requestor and for the record stated that Skip Urling travelled to Ilwaco twice on this matter. The vote to approve the adjustment was unanimous.

#3 Steed House—The Mayor stated that the house, only, had been listed as surplus property and, as such, was to be moved from the land. Cheri Diehl reported that she showed a potential buyer the house who said it was too small for their needs. The Mayor asked the Council whether the house should be kept on the surplus property list or if the house and land should be sold together. Marshall suggested the property should be liquidated as a whole but timing, based on market conditions, should be considered. Greene said that he and Forner researched the possibility of renting the property and discovered it would not be cost effective to bring the house up to rentable condition. Jensen said that he did not feel it was feasible to keep the property for eventual expansion of the Fire House since there are no plans for this in the foreseeable future, and also reported that the house was of no architectural value. Diehl added that the property was much more valuable with the house and land intact. Marshall added that the City paid \$170,000 for the property and that the City needs to take every opportunity to reduce its debt service. Jim Berglund, a citizen, added that he thought the land was to be used

for parking for the volunteer firefighters. It was noted by the Mayor, that an offer of \$1,500.00 was made and turned down to move the house as it was far below expectations. The Mayor recommended that the Fire & Ambulance Committee review the issue at their next meeting and make a recommendation to the Council. Diehl volunteered to share the information she has with the Committee.

#4 Ordinance Amending Ordinance 762/Establishing Inter-Fund Loan Ordinance—Greene explained that an Ordinance is needed to amend the ordinance passed last December to establish interest rates and quarterly and periodic payments on inter-fund loans. Marshall suggested a blanket ordinance might be established to cover all inter-fund loans and Greene agreed. The Ordinance will be brought forward at the next meeting for action.

#5 Ordinance Authorizing Cash Change & Petty Cash Funds—The Mayor stated that this ordinance would authorize the City's establishment of petty cash drawers for City business. Greene summarized by stating that this is a simple cost effective way of implementing a cash control system as requested by the State Auditor. The Ordinance will be brought forward at the next meeting for action.

#6 Adult Ordinance—A Council Member is needed to sponsor this ordinance to bring it forward before the Council. Marshall and Greene suggested that it be reviewed by the appropriate City Council Committee, and Marshall suggested and Greene agreed that the City Planner should be asked for his comments after which the Ordinance should be moved forward.

#7 Council Members' Committee Assignments—The Mayor stated that it is up to the Council to decide which members would sit on the various Council committees. A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether or not to change/combine the responsibilities of the various committees. It was noted that if three Council members sit on a committee, a quorum is constituted so any such meetings would involve public notice. Several Council members and the Mayor agreed that the Marketing Committee needs to focus on bringing business and visitors to Ilwaco, and the importance of this suggests that it should be a standing committee rather than an Ad Hoc one. The Mayor noted that the Emergency Services committee is actually a council of the mayor's of towns and other civic leaders and he plans to attend those meetings. It was additionally noted that all Council members and City staff need to be trained by FEMA in order for the City to be eligible for FEMA funding. It was decided that the Council members should send their comments on the reorganization of the committees/responsibilities/assignments to the Mayor or the Clerk. Once received, the information will be consolidated and distributed to Council members who will consider what further action is necessary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:45 p.m., the Mayor and City Council went into Executive Session for 15 minutes to discuss the Fire Chief's salary. At 8:00 p.m., the Mayor extended the session for an additional 25 minutes.

RESUMPTION OF REGULAR SESSION

At 8:22 p.m., the Mayor and City Council returned to resume the regular Council meeting and Mayor Cassinelli reported that no decisions were made by the Council while in Executive Session. Greene moved that the meeting be adjourned, Marshall seconded and since there was no further business, Mayor Cassinelli adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Mike Cassinelli, Mayor

Normandie Hand, Deputy City Clerk